

**** DRAFT ******Alabama 2005 Statewide Lead Screening Guidelines**

The Alabama Department of Public Health endorses a mixed approach to the screening of childhood lead poisoning to use either universal or targeted screening practices throughout the state.

The 2005 screening plan has designated six counties as high-risk areas requiring universal screening. Recommendations for universal screening recognize populations that possess a combination of known risk factors. These risk factors include the percentage of pre-1950 housing, number of children under the age of six living in poverty, and excessive occupational/industrial exposure to lead.

Children in lower risk areas will be screened following the targeted screening recommendation. These children are screened based on a history of lead exposure (using questionnaire provided with guidelines) between the ages of 12 months and 6 years to identify children who should be screened earlier or more frequently.

The ACLPPP will reevaluate this data annually and adjust the Screening Guidelines as appropriate.

SCREENING TOOL

Does the child live in Dallas, Jefferson, Mobile, Montgomery, Pike or Wilcox County?

If YES: Universal Lead Screening

Test blood lead at the 12 and 24 month well child visit, and once between the ages of 36-72 months if the child has not been previously screened.

If NO: Targeted Lead Screening

At each 12 and 24 month well child visit, and once in all children between the ages of 36-72 months who have not been previously screened. Test blood lead if the patient meets any of the following criteria:

- Child receives Medicaid benefits or WIC
- Child's parents answers "yes" or "don't know" to any of the following questions:
 1. Does your child live in or visit a house that was built before 1950?
 2. Does your child live in or regularly visit a house built before 1978 with recent (last 6 months) or ongoing renovation or remodeling?
 3. Does your child have a sibling or playmate who has been diagnosed with lead poisoning?